

1. (Amended) A process for forming a nonwoven web comprising the steps of:
melt spinning multicomponent filaments, said filaments comprising a first
polymeric component and a second polymeric component, said first polymeric
component having a faster solidification rate than said second polymeric component,
said second polymeric component containing a butylene-propylene copolymer, wherein
the units of said copolymer consist of butylene and propylene;

B2 drawing said multicomponent filaments;

naturally crimping said multicomponent filaments; and

thereafter forming said multicomponent filaments into a nonwoven web.

10. (Amended) A process for forming a nonwoven web comprising the steps of:
melt spinning bicomponent filaments, said bicomponent filaments comprising a
first polymeric component and a second polymeric component, said first polymeric
component comprising polypropylene, said second polymeric component comprising a
mixture of polyethylene and a butylene-propylene copolymer, wherein the units of said
copolymer consist of butylene and propylene;

B3 drawing said bicomponent filaments;

crimping said bicomponent filaments; and

thereafter forming said bicomponent filaments into a nonwoven web.

18. (Amended) A nonwoven web comprising spunbond multicomponent crimped
filaments, said multicomponent crimped filaments being made from at least a first
polymeric component and a second polymeric component, said first polymeric
component having a faster solidification rate than said second polymeric component,

B4
Conf said second polymeric component containing a butylene-propylene random copolymer,
wherein the units of said copolymer consist of butylene and propylene.

28. (Amended) A process comprising:

incorporating into a first polymeric component a butylene-propylene copolymer,
wherein the units of said copolymer consist of butylene and propylene;

melt spinning multicomponent filaments from said first polymeric component and
at least a second polymeric component;

drawing said multicomponent filaments; and

B5 thereafter forming said multicomponent filaments into a nonwoven web wherein
said butylene-propylene copolymer is present in said web in an amount sufficient to
increase the strength of said web prior to being thermally bonded.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are
respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 1-23 and 28-29, including independent claims 1, 10, 18, and
28, are pending the present application. Independent claim 1, for instance, is directed
to a process for forming a nonwoven web. The process comprises melt spinning
multicomponent filaments, drawing the multicomponent filaments, naturally crimping the
multicomponent filaments, and thereafter forming the multicomponent filaments into a
nonwoven web. The filaments comprise a first polymeric component and a second
polymeric component. The second polymeric component contains a butylene-